



September 24, 2015

Mr. Agustin Orozco Crowell & Moring LLP 515 S. Flower Street, 40<sup>th</sup> Floor Los Angeles, CA 90071

Dear Mr. Orozco:

This is in response to your U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request (GSA-2015-000125) dated November 11, 2014, in which you requested: "any and all documents relating to GSA Federal Supply Schedule 51 V Contract No. GS-06F-0010N & GS-06F-0007J."

Please find attached the documents responsive to your request: (1) MSC Industrial Direct Company (Contract Number GS-06F-0010N), and (2) W.W. Grainger (Contract Number GS-06F-0007J).

However, in processing your request, we are withholding information from both contracts information related to the Contractors Commercial Practices, Most Favored Customer and Basis of Award customer information. The information being withheld to includes any discounts and/or prices offered, as well as any other terms or conditions given to the Most Favored Customer and/or Basis of Award customer. This information is withheld pursuant to Exemption 4 of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. §552(b)(4), which protects, "matters that are trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential." In this case the information is considered confidential, because its release would cause substantial risk of competitive harm to the company by revealing the vendors' strategic pricing for their best customers and to GSA. Such information can be used by the competition to gain insight as to how these companies compete and give them unfair advantage in competitive situations, such as Blanket Purchase Agreements, Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, and other contracting vehicles.

Based on the above information, this constitutes a partial denial of your request. You have the right to appeal this partial denial of records under FOIA. To do so, you must write within 120 days of your receipt of this letter to:

U.S. General Services Administration FOIA Requester Service Center 1800 F Street, Northwest, Room 7308 Washington, DC 20405-0001 Your appeal must be in writing and should contain a brief statement of the reasons why you believe the requested information should be released. Enclose a copy of your initial request and a copy of this letter. Both the appeal letter and envelope should be marked prominently, **"Freedom of Information Act Appeal."** 

This completes our action on this request. Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Marlyn Ziegler, Contracting Officer for Grainger at 816-926-8364 or <u>marlyn.ziegler@gsa.gov</u>; or Aletha Pelham, Contracting Officer for MSC at 816-823-2456 or <u>aletha.pelham@gsa.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

## Travis Lewis

Travis Lewis FOIA Program Manager

Enclosures